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BAG CHIP BIRD

BAG CHIP BIRD
GOES TO THE ZOO

WILLIAM DIRK MAYBERRY

CHILDREN'S FICTION

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Illustrations by Geinisa P.

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Bag Chip Bird

written by
W. D. Mayberry
and illustrated by
Geinisa P.

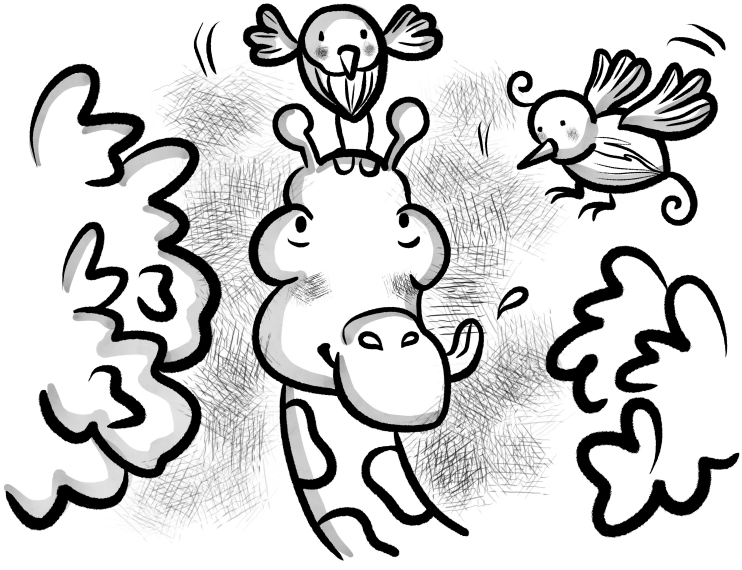
One day I was sitting in a tree away from the cats watching the people walk past when Cupcake landed near me. He was very excited as he had just read a sign that said today was the two for one day at the zoo. Wow I said to him you know we can just fly over the zoo fence; we don't have to pay. Yes, he said but the sign reminded me that we haven't seen our friends at the zoo for a long time. We both decided today was the day we would go to the zoo.

It was about a 20-minute flight to the zoo so we stopped in a park at the half way point for something to eat and drink. This park was a good one that had great gardens and you guessed it, that meant big fat worms. We had to be careful though as we didn't want to make ourselves too full. It's hard to fly when you're too full.

After our worm meal, I had drink and bath in the bird bath. I wanted to make sure I looked my best for visiting by zoo friends.

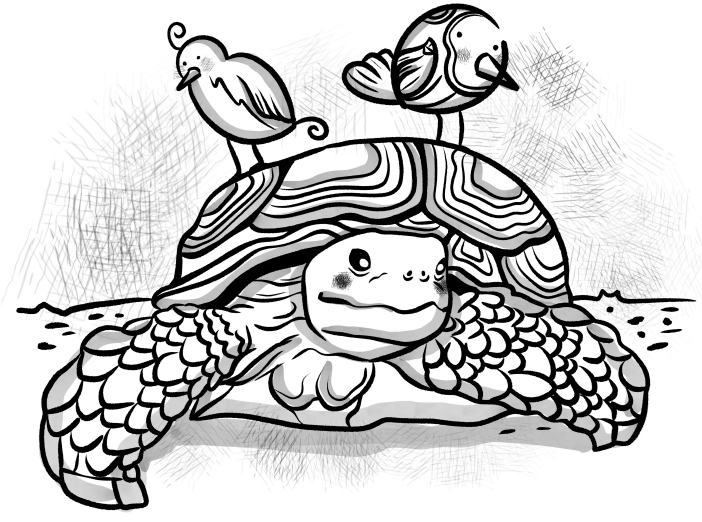
We arrived at the zoo and I was so excited. We flew over the fence, so for us it wasn't two for one. It was two for none. Sometimes being a bird was great because I could go to the zoo, football, concert, circus or fair for free. They say a bird flies free in the sky but I fly free everywhere.

Once in the zoo we went straight to the home of my old mate Salty. Salty was a sea lion seal who moved into his zoo home after being caught in a fisherman's net. He was injured but made a full recovery and now lives at the zoo. "G'day Bag Chip, nice to see you." "Yeah, good to see you old mate what have you been up to" I said, "Oh, just swimming in my beautiful cool and deep pool and eating fish, They give you so much fish here, not like my old home, I don't have to catch there ones.

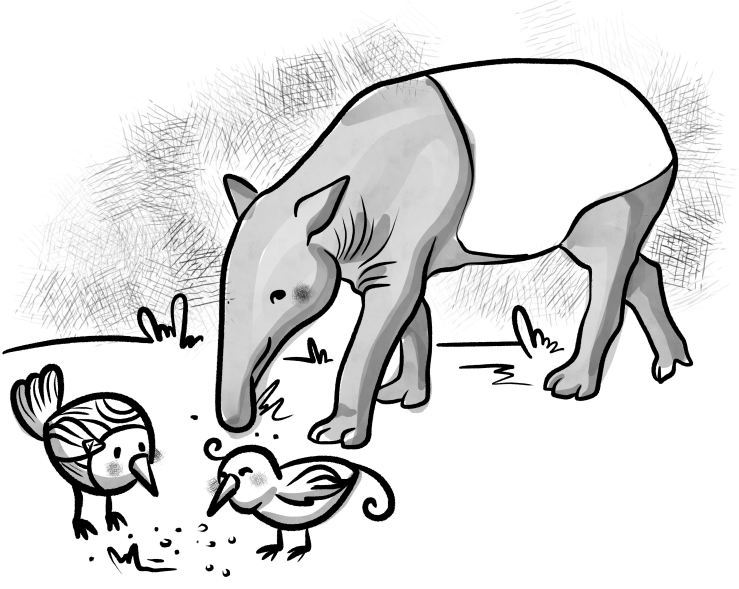


After I said goodbye to Salty, it was off visit our next friend. This friend required me to and Cupcake to fly very high otherwise this friend might not see us. We landed on their head and they were surprised to see us. As you may know Giraffe's have a very long neck and Gerome's neck was exceptionally long. "Bag Chip, how have you been, hello Cupcake" we chatted with Gerome for about 30 minutes and he told us how he could see the bush fire from above the tree line. I guess having a long neck and very long legs gave you a bird's eye view, ha ha ha. But Gerome like most animals couldn't fly.

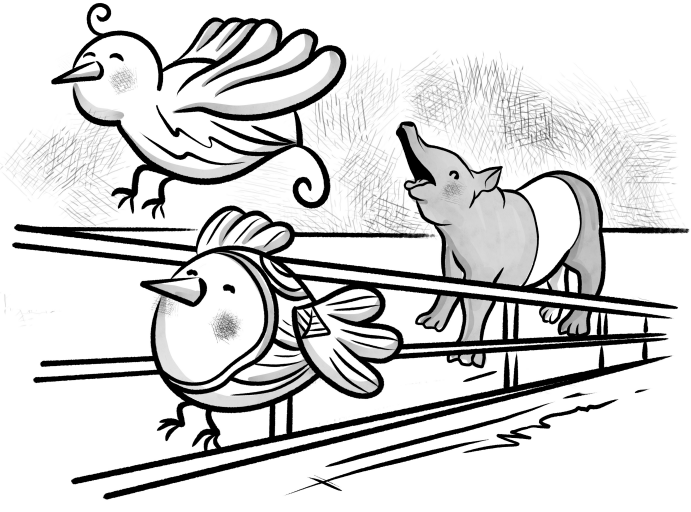
It was easy flying to see our next friend but they saw us coming. It was all downhill from Gerome's head to the meerkat enclosure. "Bag Chip and Cupcake are visiting" The meerkat look out shouted in his squeaky little voice. By the time we landed, which wasn't long, there were about ten meerkats standing around us smiling and happy to see their old friends. There was Spot, Jimmy, Bongo, Ken and Robert to name a few. They were so happy to see us and even gave us some morning tea, which was good as I was a bit hungry. We chatted for about an hour and they also introduced us to Jimmy the 2nd. This was Jimmy's new son. He was very cute; well, most meerkats are cute but the baby ones especially.



After saying goodbye to my meerkat friends, we flew through the zoo park to the reptile enclosure. I had an old friend there who I wanted to see. He was the oldest friend I had. Throckmorton had just celebrated his 116th birthday. He was a Sulcate tortoise and they live for a very long time. He told me how his body felt old but his mind he still felt like a young fellow. He told me some stories about my great great great great grampa. He and Throckmorton were friends a long time ago. He said I was a lot like him which made me proud to be his friend too.



Our next visit was to be my last for the day. Another very dear friend Tamir. Tamir was an Oriental Tapir from Indonesia. I like visiting Tamir, he was a very gentle and kind Tapir. Every time I had visited him, he always insisted in us having lunch with him. He told us how the zookeeper always gave him a lot of food. When he arrived at the zoo, he was a little thin and they were trying to get him to put on some weight. "I think they forgot I am not thin anymore Bag Chip, look how much food they have given me today" he said. "You must stay for lunch mate, and your little friend, fruit cake". ha ha ha ha "it's Cupcake silly" I said, as we looked at the pile of food which was to be our lunch.



After a long day, and much food, saying goodbye to Tamir, we started to fly home. "Goodbye my dear friends Cupcake and Fruitcake" Tamir said as we flew away. "Why does he call me Fruit Cake," said Cupcake. "Oh, he is just forgetful Cupcake and I suppose it doesn't help that Fruit Cake is his favourite cake. Keep flying Fruit Cake" I said "Very funny said Cupcake as we flew closer to home. The flight was a little hard having eaten all that food.

Anyway, that's about a day in my life. It's getting dark now, so time to find a nice safe place to sleep and dream about worms.

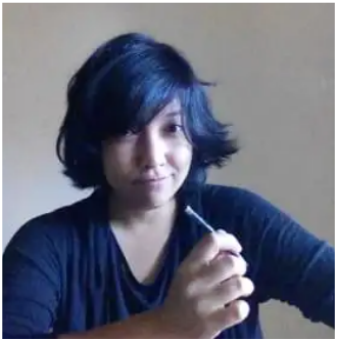
I have some other stories, but they are for another day. Just remember, next time you have some chips, leave a few in the bag for your old mate Bag Chip and thank you.

The End

About the author

William Dirk Mayberry is an Australian writer and independent digital publisher based in West Java, Indonesia. Writing across fiction, memoir, essays, educational works, self-help, and reflective nonfiction, his work explores memory, resilience, observation, and everyday human experience through a direct and personal style. His interest in storytelling began during his service in the Royal Australian Navy and later developed into a growing catalogue of independently published digital works released under the Java Free Press imprint. His publications include memoirs such as The Longest Way Home, children's stories from the Bag Chip Bird series, practical educational titles from the 101 Self Help collection, and speculative fiction projects including the Crononaught Collection. Influenced by writers such as Robert Louis Stevenson, his work combines realism, introspection, and accessible storytelling across a range of genres and formats.

Geinisa P.



An inspirational and upcoming artist from Bandung, Indonesia, Geinisa P has an extensive portfolio of work and six years illustrating experience. Her ability to build usable user interfaces and user experiences has provided her with an opportunity to pursue a life of freelancing her skills as an illustrator. This has allowed her to realise a flexible, balanced, honest, and professional career as a prominent artist.

Throughout W. D Mayberry's children's book series, Bag Chip Bird, Geinisa P's illustrations provide the story with fun and vibrant characters who come to life, capturing young readers' attention and imaginations.

Geinisa P. can be contacted to create more beautiful artwork and illustrations via the Freelancer website @ https://www.freelancer.com/u/saiyaneia

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